

Research Paper: Outline

Name: _____

Introduction Paragraph

Hook/Grabber: (Anecdote, quote, statistics, questions)

Overview: This paper will cover/consider... (State the questions/topics your paper will address in the order that you will address them)

Overall Research Question (thesis): _____

Body of Research Paper

I. Necessary Background Information/Objective Overview

Before we look at _____ we must first understand _____.

Possible things to consider in this section are: definition/terms, causes/effects, impact, prevention/treatment, etc.

A.

B.

C.

D.

II. The Current Situation

Our understanding of _____ in society today is _____

Possible things to consider in this section are: statistics/percentages, laws/current legislation, overview of the differing perspectives on the topic, etc.

A.

B.

C.

D.

(over)

III. Pros

Proponents of _____ contend/assert/argue/believe:

The points I will explore in this section are:

A.

B.

C.

D.

IV. Cons

Opponents of _____ contend/assert/argue/believe:

The points I will explore in this section are:

A.

B.

C.

D.

Analysis and Conclusion: Summary of findings, analysis of their implications, answer to your overall research question. Land on one side or the other. (So what? What have you shown? Why does it matter? What recommendations do you have?)

Clearly,